



COMMUTER LINES

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Secretary Bradberry announces \$20 million in TIMED savings

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development will finish three major bridge projects two years ahead of schedule, spurring future economic development in south Louisiana and saving the state at least \$20 million, DOTD Secretary Johnny Bradberry announced.

The major change in the Transportation Infrastructure Model for Economic Development (TIMED) program will involve three projects – construction of the St. Francisville and Florida Avenue bridges and the widening of the Huey P. Long Bridge. Those three projects now are scheduled to be completed by 2010, two years ahead of schedule.

“By completing these projects early, we also are prompting economic growth,” Bradberry said. “Governor Blanco has made economic development her top priority, and this administration is not only tearing down barriers to development, we literally are building bridges to opportunity.

“Two years earlier is a significant advance when people are counting on a new bridge to help improve their way of life,” Bradberry said.



The St. Francisville bridge is on schedule to be completed in 2010.

By finishing the projects early, the state can realize approximately \$20 million in savings by avoiding two years of inflationary construction and interest costs. The state can expect additional financial benefits through increased development, according to David Kane, Director of Logistics/Transportation Cluster Development with Louisiana Economic Development.

“Economic Development happens along highways,” Kane said, noting that the Federal Highway Administration estimates that,

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BITS AND PIECES

JOHNNY B. BRADBERRY, SECRETARY

Have you been to the third-floor classroom at headquarters lately? If you get the chance, come by and see the work some of our colleagues and the eight-member Dye Management Company team, our facilitators, are doing on the process improvement study we started on October 3. There is a genuine sense of energy and excitement among the DOTD employees who are working on this project.

I know most of you won't have the opportunity to personally visit our "project room," so I want to take this chance to explain what we're doing.

We signed a contract with Dye to help us analyze the work processes we follow at DOTD. I want you to understand that the study is not looking at how we are organized; instead, it is looking at the work flow itself, how the work actually gets done. For example, we are studying the environmental assessment process - how long it takes to complete an assessment, the various steps and sub-processes involved, the timetables we establish versus the amount of time actually needed to complete work, etc. After we fully discuss and understand the process, we may see a better and more efficient way to complete an environmental assessment, and if it requires an organizational change, we will consider that. In other words, we are operating on the premise that the organization will follow the work, not the other way around.

The bulk of the work is being done by a team of DOTD employees. Dye Management is helping the team by facilitating discussions, conducting interviews and helping set up "as is" models of our processes and "to be" models of proposed processes. I have asked Undersecretary Michael Bridges to head up the DOTD team to examine the processes and come up with recommendations. That team, with the exception of Michael and Human Resources Director Deidre Adams, is made up of people who are not on the

THIS PROCESS IMPROVEMENT STUDY IS REALLY DESIGNED TO BRING OUT THE BEST IDEAS WITHIN OUR ORGANIZATION.

So, why are we doing this, and what do I expect to get out of it? The short answer is, we're trying to find more money so we can get more work done. It's no secret that DOTD cannot afford to address all of the state's road needs. About 70 percent of our budget comes from gasoline taxes, some state and some federal. The 16-cents-per-gallon tax that makes up the state Transportation Trust Fund has not been increased since 1984. On the federal side, Louisiana drivers pay more in federal gasoline taxes than we get back, making us a "donor" state. Because both of those taxes are based on the gallon, not the price, the rising cost of gasoline does not put one additional penny into our budget. Meanwhile, the cost of everything - concrete, asphalt, steel, salaries, health insurance - keeps rising, and we're trying to pay for it all based on a 20-year-old funding mechanism. It's no secret that we need more money. The only question is, where will we find it?

Asking the public right now for more money is not the answer. In the public's mind, DOTD needs to be more efficient with the money it has before it is

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ON THE ROAD WITH BRADBERRY (Abbreviated Calendar)

July

- 7 BR, HQ Employee Briefing
- 8 BR, HQ Employee Briefing
- 9 BR, Speech at Southern University STI
- 9 BR, Interview w/ WBRZ Channel 2
- 14 BR, State Capitol, LTA Meeting
- 14 BR, Capitol Area Expressway Conf.
- 21 Grand Isle, Groundbreaking for the Hurricane Levee Repair & Beach Renourishment Project
- 22 Hammond, Dist. 62 Employee Briefing
- 26 Luncheon w/ winners of Best Team Effort of the Quarter
- 29 Point Clear, AL, LMTA Conference

August

- 6 BR, District 61 Employee Briefing
- 10 Opelousas, Dedication Ceremony for Rep. Hudson
- 11 Lafayette, Dist. 03 Employee Briefing
- 11 Lafayette, mtg. w/ Lafayette Transportation Committee
- 12 Bossier City, Dist. 04 Employee Briefing
- 12 Shreveport, I-49 Coalition Meeting
- 15-16 Little Rock, AR, SGLC Conference
- 20-23 Norfolk, VA, SASHTO Conference
- 26 Monroe, Dist. 05 Employee Briefing
- 26 Monroe Chamber Lunch
- 26 Monroe, Monroe News Star Meeting
- 30 Chase, Dist. 58 Employee Briefing
- 31 Alexandria, Dist. 08 Employee Briefing
- 31 Alexandria, Interview w/ KALB-TV

September

- 3 NO, Dist. 02 Employee Briefing
- 3 BR, LTA Meeting
- 8 Zachary, Zachary Taylor Parkway Comm.
- 9 Lake Charles, Dist. 07 Employee Briefing
- 14 BR, LTRC
- 14-16 BR, OEP (Hurricane Ivan)
- 17-21 Philadelphia, PA, AASHTO Conf.
- 28 BR, Joint Transportation Meeting

SECRETARY

Johnny B. Bradberry

DEPUTY SECRETARY

Cedric Grant

COMMUTER LINES STAFF

Mark Lambert

Lauren Lee

Lacey Holliday

Angela Funke

Tracy Horne



BITS AND PIECES *continued*

rewarded with additional funds. So, before we ask for more money, we have to demonstrate to the public that we are getting our house in order and spending our dollars wisely. That's one reason we are undertaking this study.

But there is another reason, too. While I have no doubt that many of our departments are operating efficiently, I am equally sure that we have a lot room for improvement in many areas. This is not necessarily a reflection on the people who work in those areas. In fact, I believe this process will find that some of our most creative and conscientious people are working in areas that have the most potential for improvement. I think the problem is that some of you have not been allowed to fully express your ideas on ways to better do the work. I want to reach into the organization and find everyone who has a good idea and find out which of those ideas will work and implement them.

We face some difficult decisions in the coming months and years. In the short term, we really have to focus on doing more with less. Costs are rising, the needs are great and there is no magic bullet on the horizon to fix all of our problems. I don't have all the answers, but I believe we can find the answers within DOTD. This process improvement study is really designed to bring out the best ideas within our organization. We simply can't continue to do what we've always done. As you've heard me say before, if you keep doing what you've been doing, you'll keep getting what you've gotten. I sincerely hope all of you look at this as an opportunity for DOTD to step up to the plate, put a plan into action and show the public what dedicated and creative people we have.



Process Improvement Study Team Members

Margaret Breaux	Michael Bridges	Marianne Buchanan
Dom Cali	Kirt Clement	John Collins
Tony Culp	Steve Cumbaa	Bill Fontenot
Steve Glascock	Bobby Hennigan	Eric Kalivoda
Tom Landry	Mike Moss	Richard Savoy
D.J. Webre	<i>(list does not include extended team members)</i>	

Section of I-49 Named After Late State Rep. Doc Hudson



Secretary Bradberry speaks at the highway dedication ceremony.

A ceremony was held Tuesday, August 10, to dedicate a section of I-49 in St. Landry Parish as the Charles I. "Doc" Hudson Highway in honor of the late State Representative, Doc Hudson.

The ceremony for Hudson, who died unexpectedly in May, was held at the Opelousas General Hospital Auditorium. The

event was hosted by DOTD; the LA Legislative Black Caucus; and State Rep. Roy Quezaire, Chairman of the House Transportation, Highways and Public Works Committee.

For more than 30 years, Hudson contributed to Louisiana in a variety of roles including government, education, and administration at both state and local levels. Shortly before his death, Hudson was working with Rep. Quezaire and Secretary Bradberry in an effort to create more opportunities for small and disadvantaged businesses to procure state contracts. This pioneering effort, named in his honor, is known as "The Hudson Initiative."

The Hudson Initiative, which was formally introduced at the ceremony, is an all encompassing plan designed to correct the disproportionate number of large firms procuring and working on state projects through legislation and education.

"Doc Hudson understood the value of taking all of its citizens on the journey to prosperity, whether it's an interstate highway through Opelousas or the road to economic opportunity," expressed Bradberry. "We are hopeful that this interstate will help spur more economic development for St. Landry Parish and that it serve as a permanent reminder of Representative Hudson's efforts to improve opportunities for all citizens of Louisiana."

The section of I-49 that was renamed runs between the Sunset/Grand Coteau Interchange and the Washington Interchange, roughly taking in House District 40, which Hudson represented.

Lafourche Parish Bridge Renamed in Memory of Officers

DOTD, along with State Representative Loulan Pitre, Jr., and the Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office, hosted a dedication ceremony for the new Champagne – Harrelson Bridge on Tuesday, July 27.

Rep. Pitre served as Master of Ceremonies and led a host of local officials, family and friends in the dedication of the bridge in memory of Detective Chaney Champagne and Detective Sergeant Kurt “Woody” Harrelson, two Lafourche Parish Sheriff's deputies who were killed in an automobile accident July 31, 2003.

The detectives were on their way to Thibodaux when a call came over the radio that an elderly woman had driven her vehicle into a canal, and her car was filling with water. As the officers responded to the call, they negotiated a curve in the highway and spun out of control on the slick, wet road, crashing into an oncoming truck. Both officers were killed immediately. The elderly woman survived.

Subsequently, House Bill 1540 was signed by the governor, naming the new bridge over Bayou Lafourche the Champagne – Harrelson Bridge in memory of the two officers.

The new bridge was completed in May 2004. The project involved construction of a new vertical lift span bridge between LA 1 and LA 308 over Bayou Lafourche. The project also included

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The Champagne and Harrelson families stand in front of the completed bridge, dedicated to the lost officers.

New Security Policies in Place for Ferry Travel



The Iberville ferry docks to load passengers.

On June 25, Secretary Bradberry announced that passengers boarding most of the ferries operated by DOTD will be subject to random security searches, effective July 1. The program was implemented in accordance with the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, which was signed by President Bush on November 25, 2002.

Bradberry stated, “These measures, required by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, are designed to protect our ports and waterways from terrorist attacks.” In compliance with the Act, DOTD prepared and received U.S. Coast Guard approval of its risk assessment and security plan and trained ferry personnel in security procedures. Specific details of the plan cannot be released due to its security-sensitive nature, but both passengers and vehicles are subject to random searches at the following ferry crossings: Plaquemine/Sunshine, White Castle/Carville, St. Francisville/New Roads, Edgard/Reserve, Cameron/Holly Beach, and all of the ferries in New Orleans operated by DOTD's Crescent City Connection Division.

The type of search and the frequency of the searches are being determined by the Maritime Security Level, however the ferry schedules will remain unchanged. “We do not,” Bradberry added, “expect the public to be unduly inconvenienced by these searches, and anticipate that passengers will fully cooperate in this important national security effort.”

2004 Summer Transportation Institute a Success

Nineteen high school sophomores and juniors from East Baton Rouge and surrounding parishes participated in the month long Southern University Summer Transportation Institute (STI) from June 14-July 9. The Institute is a summer program for students, sponsored by the FHWA at college and university host sites, encouraging promising minority students to pursue transportation-related courses of study at the college/university level, emphasizing a focus on math, science, and technology enrichment.

Participants took part in daily ACT preparation and web site design, and they constructed and competed for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for several transportation related engineering projects.

Preparation for each Summer Transportation Institute begins with assistance from an Intermodal Advisory Committee, established to offer vast levels of expertise in the fields of transportation engineering. Fran Gilson represents DOTD on the advisory committee; other committee members are Mike Boudreaux, LTRC, Marva Jacques, LA Federal Highway Administration, Dilton Anderson, ABMB Engineers, Inc., Willow Wilson, US Coast Guard, and Sarah Spland and Huey Lawson, Southern University.

At the closing luncheon of this year's program, the students were awarded for their achievements in different categories, including balsa wood bridge design, pulse jet boat design, magnetic levitation, and web page design. Secretary Bradberry joined with other speakers from the institute in encouraging the students to continue on their paths to success.

For more information on the Southern University Summer Transportation Institute contact Sharlenitia Clark, Director, Civil & Environmental Engineering Outreach Programs Office, Southern University, P. O. Box 9969, Baton Rouge, LA 70813.



Bradberry explains the importance of education and hard work in finding success.

DOTD Hosts Louisiana Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Summit

DOTD, in conjunction with the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission (LHSC), the Louisiana Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission, hosted the Louisiana Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Summit on August 19, at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans. The meeting focused on ways to make Louisiana communities safer for bicyclists and pedestrians. Topics included engineering, education and enforcement solutions, needed safety legislation, and funding issues.



The goal of the summit was to generate renewed interest and greater awareness of critical bicycle/pedestrian safety issues and concerns in Louisiana. DOTD wants to transform existing ideas into proactive programs with the help of our numerous local, state, and federal partners.

Welcoming remarks were provided by Ken Perret, Assistant Secretary for DOTD's Office of Planning and Programming. Other speakers at the event included Colonel James Champagne, Executive Director of the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission and William A. Sussmann, Louisiana Division Administrator for the FHWA.

In attendance at the event were representatives from the Regional Planning Commission of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes; DOTD; the LHSC; the FHWA; Florida Atlantic University; Tulane University; the Lafayette Parish School System; Safe Routes to School; Livable Streets, Inc.; WE BIKE; and the Baton Rouge City Planning Commission.

NEWS BRIEFS

➤ Phase II of the Baton Rouge I-10/Picardy Avenue Interchange project began Sunday, July 25. This phase is expected to last approximately eight months. The \$40 million project is aimed at reducing congestion on I-10 at Bluebonnet Boulevard and Siegen Lane. The project involves the creation of two, one-way frontage roads running east and west along I-10 between Bluebonnet Boulevard and Siegen Lane, and the widening and reconstruction of I-10 between these two roads.

The project is being undertaken in six phases and is expected to be completed by late summer of 2006. Periodic lane closures will occur, but will be limited to night time hours (8 p.m. - 6 a.m.) on Sundays through Thursdays. At all other times, two lanes of traffic will be maintained. No lane closures will be allowed on weekends (between 6 a.m. Friday and 8 p.m. Sunday) or on holidays.

The contractor for the project is James Construction Group, LLC.

➤ On July 19, DOTD welcomed Mark Lambert as Communications Director. Lambert is an LSU graduate who brings to the table an extensive media background including experience as sports/staff writer, assignment editor, managing editor, television news director/executive producer, as well as public information officer in city government. Lambert replaced Deidre Adams, who resumed her job as DOTD Human Resources Director.

➤ In July, Governor Blanco announced the appointment of Cedric S. Grant as Deputy Secretary for DOTD, effective August 2. Prior to his DOTD appointment, Grant was employed by Parsons Corporation in Atlanta, where he managed road and highway infrastructure projects valued at \$10 million for clients. Before Parsons, he held numerous managerial and administrative positions with the City of New Orleans, most recently as Chief Administrative Officer. Grant replaced Blaise Carriere, who has been reassigned to the position of Assistant to the Secretary for Policy.

➤ The Capital Area United Way held its 17th Annual Jambalaya Jamboree Cookoff on Tuesday, August 31, at the Sheraton Atrium in Baton Rouge. DOTD's own Richard Savoie, Freddie Gardner, Terry Cormier and Fran Gilson participated in the event as one of the competing cookoff teams. The day-long annual event included lunch and contests for three categories: Best Costume, Best Agency Display and Best Cookoff Team Display.

➤ Secretary Bradberry recently wrapped up a series of employee briefings at DOTD's Baton Rouge Headquarters and the statewide district offices. During these briefings, he introduced DOTD employees to his vision, philosophy and goals.

Secretary Bradberry announces TIMED savings *(continued from page 1)*

for every \$1 billion spent on highways, about 42,000 jobs are created.

Officials in St. Francisville and Jefferson Parish were pleased by the announcement.

"We're excited that the TIMED program has progressed to this point and appreciate the support of Secretary Bradberry in accelerating the program," said Curtis Jelks, Chairman of the Zachary Taylor Parkway Commission. "The completion of the bridge will also increase tourism, as well as improve business opportunities throughout this corridor."

"Jefferson Parish commends Governor Blanco and Secretary Bradberry for their leadership in recognizing how important the modernization of the Huey P. Long Bridge is to fulfilling the economic development potential of southeast Louisiana," Jefferson Parish President Aaron Broussard said. He also noted that widening the bridge "will create for the first time a strong sense of unity between the east bank and west bank of Jefferson Parish."

The TIMED Program was created by legislation in 1989 as a pay-as-you-go program funded by a four-cent-per-gallon gasoline tax. In 2000, the completion date was estimated at 2031; two years later, that date was moved up to 2012 through bond sales.

Other projects in the \$4 billion TIMED program include four-laning three new north-south routes (U.S. 171, U.S. 167 and U.S. 165), improvements to U.S. 61, U.S. 90, LA 15, LA 3241, Earhart Boulevard, Tchoupitoulas Corridor and West Napoleon. The program also paid for improvements at the Louis Armstrong International Airport and the Port of New Orleans.

DOTD Employs Students for Summer Student Engineering Program

Over the summer DOTD employs junior and senior level college students to give them “real world” experience. This year 36 engineering students participated - 25 in the student engineering summer program and 11 in the co-op program.

On August 2, 2004, Secretary Bradberry joined the summer engineering program students for a send-off luncheon. Bradberry talked about his vision for DOTD and gave words of wisdom on succeeding in the business world, stressing that the skills they are learning and have achieved will be the key to making them future leaders.

Also speaking at the luncheon were Benjamin A. Fernandez, Engineer and former participant of Engineering Resource Development Program, ERDP; Seth Woods, former engineering co-op student; Mike Boudreaux, DOTD Engineer; and Janice Drake, HR Manager. Speakers shared information about the summer student program and co-op program, ERDP, and DOTD/SASHTO Transportation Scholarships.

To participate in the Summer Student Program, students must be registered full-time with their university and classified as a junior or a senior in Civil Engineering. These students may work full-time or part-time. To participate in the Co-op Program, students must be registered full-time with their university and classified as junior or a senior in Civil Engineering with an expressed interest in Transportation Engineering. In addition to having earned a 2.5 GPA or higher, students must be recommended by their school's Civil Engineering chairman.



Bradberry congratulates DOTD's student engineers on a successful summer.

Technology Transfer

The following became certified inspectors between June 1, 2004 and September 1, 2004:

Asphaltic Concrete Plant Inspection

Richard W. Booker	District 04
John P. Gagnard	District 08
Rickey J. Parish	District 08

Embankment and Base Course Inspection

Dennis Gros, Jr.	District 02
Gregory Roberts	District 05
Mark Broussard	District 07
Melissa Faye Causey	District 61
Chad Lee Robique	District 61

Portland Cement Concrete Paving Inspection

Donald D. Mason	District 04
Trampus Barton	District 08
Tracy W. Hilburn	District 58

Asphaltic Concrete Paving Inspection

Richard W. Booker	District 04
John P. Gagnard	District 08
Rickey J. Parish	District 08

Lafourche Parish Bridge *(continued from page 4)*

the widening of LA 1 and LA 308, the slight realignment and reconstruction of LA 654, improved drainage, and the addition of new traffic signals to assist traffic flow. Coastal Bridge Co. LLC, of Baton Rouge, was the contractor for the project. The DOTD Project Engineer was Alan Weber.

The structure is a unique vertical lift bridge, due to the use of inclined concrete towers. The DOTD design staff of structural, mechanical and electrical engineers and technicians spent about 6 years on the engineering, construction plans, construction support and construction inspection.

Remarks were given by DOTD Legislative Liaison Juba Diez, State Senator Reggie Dupre, Jr., Lafourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph, and Lafourche Parish Sheriff Craig Webre.

“The Champagne – Harrelson Bridge will serve as a legacy to the selfless acts of these public servants,” Sheriff Webre said. “It is a fitting tribute for two outstanding law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.”

PERSONNEL UPDATES

(APRIL-AUGUST 2004)

NEW HIRES

DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Newell C. Anderson; Troy A. Callais; Duc Vinh Dinh; Setrina Lynette Douglas; Brandon P. Green; Corbett M. Hollier; Melinna Pierre James; Craig Curtis Kennedy; Vanessa C. Ronquille; Francis G. Simon, Jr.; and Chrys Staiger.

DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE

Colby Dale Abshire; Kevin M. Bernard; Norris C. Huval; Brandon J. Pontiff; and Huey J. Trahan.

DISTRICT 04 – SHREVEPORT

Richard A. Brown; Kenneth R. Campbell; Danny T. Carr, Jr.; Lindy L. Cleveland; Glenn M. Martin; and Donald D. Rhodes.

DISTRICT 05 – MONROE

Kacie J. Braddy; Anthony A. Delay, III; and Micah Dwayne Hogan.

DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

David W. Williams

DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

Joyce Ann Cooper; James V. Fletcher; Bryan M. Juneau; Odis Lakey, Jr.; Kerry J. Lemoine; and James C. Lucas, Jr.

DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

Shirley Ray Guidry

DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

James D. Cutrer; Thomas Eric Jenkins; Richard J. Kellar; Lawrence William McGuff; Andy W. Nobles; Jason J. Pingno; Jeremy Mark Rodriguez; and Christopher A. Spears.

HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER

Michael J. Arendt; Tara Bacile; Hoan Duc Dang; Luther Daniel Dunning; Brent J. Duplechin; Gerard M. Ferarci; Sara Wilson Gueho; Bradford Charles Hanson; Nikita C. Jones; Carol A. Lecoq; Arlin W. Levy; Mitchell Lee Morton; George Marcel Olivier; Louis P. Stewart, Jr.; and Seth J. Woods.

PROMOTIONS

DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Ricardo Alexander; Angela C. Baker; Dudley J. Boudreaux; James Brown; Robert C. Flynn; Edmond J. Gipson, Jr.; Kevin Johnson, Jr.; Alton J. Landry; Jose Martin Peraza; and Chris J. Tamplain.

DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE

Graycen C. Adams; Shirley M. Amos; Dennis Begnaud; Henry L. Begnaud; Ronald J. Bertinot; Christine L. Bourgeois; Steven J. Broussard; Rogers Courville; Robert D. Credeur; Oscar L. Domingue; Brian A. Ducote; David N. Faulk; Kimberly Gantt; Timothy K. Guidry; Mable Lejeune; Michael C. Moss; Michael W. Moton; Allen R. Myles; Adam Michael Norris; Earl John Roger; Douglas Ray Romero; James Carl Smith; Carl K. Thibodeaux; Patrick O. Washington; and Aubry Jules Wyble.

DISTRICT 04 – SHREVEPORT

Jim Wayne Finley; Robert W. Taylor; and John Eugene Tuggle.

DISTRICT 05 – MONROE

Danny C. Corrent; Thomas Randall Duke; Jeffrey S. Ernst; and Chester T. Henshaw, Jr.

DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

Jerry N. Granger; Stacy L. Hebert; Derrell Moreaux, Sr.; and Russell J. Singleton.

DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

Johnnie Lee Brown; Jerry D. Burnaman; Donna G. Deloach; Timothy W. Langley; Michael E. Laurent; Freddy C. McCall; Jeremy H. Mott; Kevin E. Simmons; Laura D. Steelman; Charles Eugene Stokes; and Robert A. Waddle.

DISTRICT 58 – CHASE

Lankston D. Bass, Jr.; Jeannie Louise Carpenter; John E. Jameson; Charles Bradley McCartney; Wren Eldridge Palmer; and Shannon L. Stephens.

DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

Shawn M. Billoups; Audrey P. Brooks; Lynette Marie Green; Dale A. Hebert; Conard Dewayne Monroe; Clifton W. Morris; Herman D. Oliver; Wanda J. Preat; and Robert Lee Sam.

DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

Karen Ann Dunnington; Ronnie L. Hartzog; Tommy L. Hickman, Jr.; John W. Hodges; John E. Lester; Sharon McKinney; and William J. Murray, IV.

HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER

Larry B. Ardoin; Joy Ballard; John Michael Bankston, Jr.; Janelle Theresa Barnes; Shawn M. Berg; Patricia Ann Bergeron; Kristina Gayle Blanchard; Ricky Earl Brumfield; James M. Bueche; Sarah C. Collins; John Mason Graham; Christophe N. Fillastre; Sabrina A. Fuller; Dennis Ray Hebert; Stacie Lynette Hooper; Theresa L. Hymel; Coley Pritchett Johnson; Frank G. Lea, Jr.; Gary Paul Lecoq; John Alan Rasi; Clarissa Gayle Roy; Ann M. Watkins; and Carl Anthony Williams.

RETIREMENTS

DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Arthur Andrews; Kenvard J. Beagh; Norman J. Lestrick; Lionel L. Lusignan; Anthony E. Matherne; Lynn Charles Ramagos; Richard E. Rood; and Roy P. Trahan.

DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE

Wayne J. Domingue; Lawrence C. Harry; Maureen Joseph Jenkins; Mohammad Sadreddini; Fred A. Simon; Allen S. Trahan; Aaron Trahan, Sr.; and Wilfred Williams, Jr.

DISTRICT 04 – SHREVEPORT

Kenneth E. Campbell; Stuart L. Carson; James A. Gallman; Charles R. Mitchell; Dewey C. Moseley, Sr.; and Michael K. White.

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QUARTERLY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS

(QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2004)

DISTRICT 02

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Melissa L. Fonseca

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

John R. Monzon

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Mary C. White, Jo Ellen Bruney, and Trinace Edwards

DISTRICT 03

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Shirley Amos

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

David Landry

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

James Badeaux, Kenneth Breaux, Christopher Briley, Allen Ray Hebert, Kenneth Meche, George Miller, Lawrence Noel, and Jeffrey Richard

DISTRICT 04

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Pam Cutlip

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

Steve Green

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

James Dixon and Henry Tillman

DISTRICT 05

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Willis Jenkins

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

H.D. Netherland

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

David Brown, Charles Campbell, and John Soares

DISTRICT 07

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Robert Mayeaux

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

Burkman Fruge

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Curtiss Bennett, Robert Benoit, Eric Broussard, Larry Courville, Whitney Green, Wayne Guidry, Beverly Jones, James Judson, Joseph LaFleur, Richard Lantron, Mathieu LeBleu, Patrick Mathias, Mary Mitchell, Michael Pellerin, Donald Romero, Henry Sarvant, David Simons, Dallas Thomas, and Barbara Walker

DISTRICT 08

NONE

DISTRICT 58

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Lloyd Ellis

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

Eric Price

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Louis Smith and Daryl Price

DISTRICT 61

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Elizabeth Bogan

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

Runyon Richard

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Joseph C. Bertholet; Tessa Labatut; Jody J. Richard, Jr.; Samuel J. Wagner; Craig A. David; Gerard Lee Mars; Gary J. Gros; Douglas J. Cormier, Sr.; Mitchell James Pinsonat; Dwane P. Doucet; Mark Quincy Martin; Rex Allen Vosburg; William E. Damron, Jr.; Clint J. Gueho; and Jason Charles Russo

DISTRICT 62

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

NONE

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

Danny Creel

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Vicky Brumfield, Frank Williams, Keith Newman, Dale Luc, Rockie Martello, Bruce Kemp, Edgar Nobles, Clayton Lee, Ernest Route, Robert Ridgel, and Scott Bankston

HEADQUARTERS

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Allen Taylor

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

NONE

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Bill Grice, Kris Wascom, Barry Lacy, Charles Hudson, Duc Ngo, Julie Taylor, Leslie Mix, Tanya Bankston, Gary Angelo, and Jerry Pitts

CCCC

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Shawana Leonard

MANAGER OF THE QUARTER

Clarence Troulliet

BEST TEAM EFFORT OF THE QUARTER

Lones Gagnard, Jr.; Lindsay Ayer, III; Lloyd Williams; and Edward Mitchell

PERSONNEL UPDATES

(continued from page 8)

RETIREMENTS *(continued)*

DISTRICT 05 – MONROE

Jerry Don Aulds; and Patricia A. Wilhite.

DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

Michael Leger; and Myrtle J. Smith.

DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

James A. Owen; Robert J. Richards; Gary Lane Rister; and Rita L. Voorhies.

DISTRICT 58 – CHASE

Max C. Andrews; Robert Leo Brown; James W. Forrest; Catherine M. Lucas; and Dennis R. Wollerson.

DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

Harry Atkinson; James M. Fairchild; Norman M. Nelson; T. E. Quatrevingt; and Jerry P. Torres.

DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

Frank J. Ciolino; Linda D. Gerald; Steven P. Kuhn; Dale Mark Luc; Emile J. Pingno, Jr.; and Jimmie Joe Ribando.

HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER

Robert H. Anderson; George M. Bourgeois; James M. Bridges; Alvin W. Ebey; Beverly Anne Hansen; Linda Hendricks; Tommy L. Hickman; S. M. Holladay, III; Robert Kerry; Albert J. Laperouse; F. L. McMurray; Kam Movassaghi; Eddie Olivier; and Johnny C. Spillman.

HR HOT TOPICS

The Department of Civil Service is initiating a job study of all administrative support job titles. The study will result in four new job series encompassing over 50 current job titles. It will be presented to the CS Commission for consideration in December 2004; subsequent approval by the Governor will be required.

The Employee Recognition Program, Policy and Procedure Memorandum No. 49, was revised effective August 11, 2004. The significant changes are as follows:

- Nomination Process - Self-nominations and nominations of immediate family members in any category are prohibited.
- Secretary's Award of Excellence - Increased the cash award amount from up to \$200 to up to \$1,000.
- Best Team Effort of the Year - Allows that the \$2,000 cash reward be used for the entire District/CCCD to fund an annual Employee Recognition Event. The approval process is explained.

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HR Praise! – The following comments were made by Allen Reynolds, Director of Civil Service, in a conversation with Secretary Bradberry.

- DOTD has one of the best HR offices in the State—an extremely competent and experienced staff.
- Civil Service has recently undertaken steps to improve the quality of supervision in State government by requiring supervisory training. DOTD is way ahead of Civil Service in this area and has already developed a “solid” training program to prepare supervisors; DOTD’s mandatory training program exceeds what Civil Service requires.
- One of the ways Civil Service assesses the effectiveness of the Performance Planning & Rating (PPR) System is to review how many “unrateds” PPR’s are given to employees. DOTD has historically enjoyed one of the lowest rates of “unrated” employees and has received several commendations for its dedication to making the PPR system work.

DOTD's Educational Leave/Tuition Reimbursement Policy

DOTD's Educational Leave/Tuition Reimbursement Policy is defined in Secretary's Policy and Procedural Memorandum #17. In general, the policy is based on Civil Service rules that allow agencies to grant leave with pay and tuition reimbursement to employees who take courses that are both specifically related to their jobs and that will improve the employee's job performance. At DOTD, eligible employees are those with permanent status and at least one year of DOTD service.

Eligible coursework is either a junior- or senior-level course directly related to the employee's job or, if the employee is not seeking a degree, any level course that is specifically related to the employee's job. College tuition costs of such courses may be reimbursed, provided adequate funds are available and the employee receives a grade of C or better. Educational leave and reimbursement are limited to one course per semester; two courses may be allowed when the second course is a required lab.

An “Application for Educational Leave/Tuition Reimbursement” form must be submitted to the appropriate appointing authority at least 30 days before the course begins and must be approved by either the appropriate Assistance Secretary/Chief Engineer as well as by the Undersecretary.

For more specific details and procedures, please review PPM # 17 (available on the web at <http://webmail.dotd.state.la.us/Policies.nsf>) or contact Pam Dantin of the Headquarters' Human Resources Section at 225-379-1241.

Letters We Like



Dear LA DOTD Motorist Assistance Patrol:

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your Motorist Assistance Patrol Service in the Shreveport area. We serve people with disabilities and one of our vehicles was in route to our work activity center when they experienced a front tire blowout on a very busy expressway in the morning.

Six ladies were stranded on the roadside, but not for long. By the time I was notified and could get there with an alternate vehicle they were already being served (by the MAP patrol van). The flat was changed, the ladies didn't even have to exit the vehicle, and they were on their way in approximately 15 minutes. Their day was not even interrupted.

We have some 35 vehicles that are almost always on the road transporting people to various locations, appointments, etc. It's very comforting to know that the Department of Transportation and Development provides such a service for people when they need it the most. This is tax dollars well spent. Think of someone experiencing an emergency where you may even save a life.

A very special thanks from The Arc of Caddo-Bossier.

Sincerely,
Tommy Carter, Facility Coordinator, Vehicles
The Arc of Caddo-Bossier, Shreveport, LA

Ms. Linda England,

I've just received the map you so kindly sent me. I am dancing with delight! Thank you ever so much for taking the trouble to hunt it down for me.

No research worth its salt can ever proceed or come anywhere near satisfactory completion without the help of others ...many of whom go unsung and unacknowledged.

When the time comes to present the results of my work to a publisher (should I live long enough), I will make certain to acknowledge your help.

Thanks again. You realize, of course, that having helped someone once, you put yourself in the way of being asked again. I appreciate your help very much.

Emma Broussard

Dear Motorist Assistance Patrol:

I am writing to let you know that I had a blow out on I-10 going west, just before the Loyola Exit on Saturday, June 6, 2004. I called AAA and they said they would be out within an hour. Just as I put the phone down, along came the Motorist Assistance Patrol.

I would like to let you know what a Godsend they are. It was Gerard P. Ronan that helped me.

Thank you so much for your services. I hope the service will continue to help people who are stranded.

Yours Sincerely,
Hilary Clark

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I-310 Mississippi River Bridge Repairs Underway

Work began Friday, September 10, on the I-310 Mississippi River Bridge in St. Charles Parish. The purpose of the project is to help determine an alternate deck surfacing material which may be used in place of the currently installed asphaltic material. This will provide for a more stable surface that requires less frequent maintenance and resurfacing operations.

The project involves installation of a second portland cement concrete test section. One of the bridge's expansion joints will be replaced and another one repaired due to deterioration of the joints. Workers will also be removing and installing some of the existing asphaltic surfacing. The project is expected to last 60 calendar days, weather permitting.

The contractor for the project is Boh Bros. Construction Co., LLC. The total cost of the project is \$1,172,202.19. To minimize the duration of the project and its impact on motorists, DOTD is providing an incentive for each day of early completion. The maximum, total incentive payment that may be earned is \$50,000 for the southbound roadway and \$25,000 for the northbound roadway. The DOTD Project Engineer is Osmond Hansen.

Motorists are urged to drive carefully through the work zones. Traffic delays of greater than 30 minutes should be anticipated. Intermittent lane closures will occur and speed limits are reduced to 60 miles per hour for the duration of the project.



Work begins on the I-310 Mississippi River Bridge.